

QUEENSWAY SECONDARY SCHOOL

• Address: 2A Margaret Drive, Singapore 149295 • Office: 6474 1421 • Fax: 6479 1302 • Email: qss@moe.edu.sg

12 April 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Looking at this morning's weather, we are most grateful that we had excellent weather last Friday for the launch of our 60th Anniversary celebrations. It was a bright and beautiful morning and our students responded with pride and joy as we celebrated the occasion together, though mostly virtually as only a small group could be in the School Hall.

We were grateful that Mr Eric Chua, Grassroots Adviser for Tanjong Pagar GRC, GRO (Queenstown), was able to join us in the celebrations and launched the 60 million weekly steps challenge for the upcoming month. He together with Mr Ong Kong Hong, Zonal Director, Schools (South) from MOE and Mr Lim Yew Kiang, Chairman, School Advisory Committee and an alumni of QSS put the finishing touches to the Art Mural painted at the walkway entrance to our school, after starting the 1st flight of runners.

We started the celebrations with a lively presentation by our 213 students, who presented a melody of rhythms to get us off on an energetic start. A video montage on our theme of "Honouring the Past, Inspiring our Future" was also enjoyed by all present, especially alumni who reminisced over their years studying in QSS. If you missed out on the proceedings, you may view the 60th Anniversary Celebrations at https://go.gov.sg/qss60th.

I am also heartened that some of you have asked if you can be part of the Challenge. Parents are welcomed to join us. Please go to the link above and you can indicate if you want to participate in the steps challenge or choose to make a donation or contribution of items for needy and elderly families in the Queenstown area. Participation is limited to parents only.

Being our 60th Anniversary, we are having this challenge over 4 weeks to remind ourselves to maintain a healthy lifestyle as it generally takes at least 21 days to build a new habit. Every 40,000 steps will convert to 1 kg of rice. Thus, we are hoping to raise 6,000kg of rice to distribute to the needy and elderly residents in Queenstown. I am thankful that sponsorship for the rice has been secured from a company and a group of my former schoolmates. So, it is now up to us to meet or even exceed the challenge so that we can be a blessing to others.

In addition, all students who accomplish the target of 60,000 steps per week over the 4 weeks will receive a limited 60th Anniversary T-shirt!

Delivery of Chromebooks

I am pleased to inform you that we were just informed by the suppliers of your child's/ward's Chromebooks that these will be delivered to our school on 21 and 26 April. We were advised that in view of SMM, parents/guardians will not be allowed to collect the Chromebook together with your child/ward. This is because the deployment process would require us to bring students class-by-class to our Computer Labs for each student to initiate the processes to activate their Chromebooks. Each class would be supported by two teachers as well as two technicians from the supplier. All students MUST bring their NRIC/photo ID for identity verification by the supplier.

The following is the schedule for the deployment of the Chromebooks, by class:

21 April – 201, 202, 203, 204, 211, 212, 301, 302, 303, 304 and 313

26 April - 101, 102, 103, 104, 111, 112, 113, 213, 311, 312 and absentees from 21 April





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It would take approximately 1 hour for each class to activate their Chromebooks together with the Device Management App (DMA).

All students will receive their Chromebook (with inbuilt Chrome pen) together with a wired earpiece and a carrier bag. On the day they receive their device, it will come in a sealed box, which they will be instructed as to how to "unbox". They will be required to bring this storage box home and keep it with them for at least 7 days in case of the need for a 1-to-1 exchange. Should there be any defects, they are to return all the items together with the storage box.

Students will be signing off the receipt provided by the supplier after verifying that their Chromebook is in good working condition. A digital copy of the receipt will be sent if parents have provided their email addresses, otherwise hardcopy receipts will be given to your child/ward. They will also be signing the "Acceptable Use Policy" (AUP), which concerns the responsible and respectful use of their personal devices. They will also bring this home for all parents/guardians to sign and return the following day to their Class Mentors.

DMA will be set to default mode, whereby the device usage time will be suspended from 10.30 pm till 6.00 am. This is to ensure your child/ward has sufficient sleep. Should you wish to opt for alternative DMA settings beyond 10.30 pm, you can make your request through PG. We will then follow up with you.

When students report to class, they will place their Chromebook on their desks with screen down. Their Chromebook will only be kept in the metal cabinet when they leave their class for recess. For all lessons in alternative venues, they will bring their Chromebook with them.

Students must take care of their Chromebook after school hours, for instance, between dismissal and CCA or travelling home from school. When your child/ward has CCA, their Chromebook would be locked inside the metal cabinet till the end of the CCA. However, should he/she be taking a bus or train home, he/she should be careful to keep it safely in the bag and in his/her hands. Please remember that there is no insurance coverage for the lost or negligence of the learning devices.

I am sharing this with you well before your child/ward receives his/her Chromebook so that you may communicate about the responsible and respectful use of the device. This should include when the device is used so that family communication will still be taking place face-to-face rather than through a device. At the appropriate time, the device should be put away so that your child/ward has sufficient sleep each night in order to pay attention during lessons and be functioning well in school.

Conclusion

The opportunities for learning will be enhanced through the use of the personal learning device for all students. More than just the technological advantages our students will gain through the experience must also be the self-development when your child/ward is using this in a responsible and respectful manner. There must also be the measure of discipline in their use so that they would indeed become excellent students in their journey through QSS. It is our intent and hope that our students will hold true to our school's values, even as we move into this new phase of learning and development. This will help each of our Queenswayans find "Success through Diligence" in doing what is right and expected of them.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Tan Chong/ Principal

